LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Claim 1. (previously and currently amended) Seamed felt for use in a paper machine, with a textile backing element (20, 60, 100) that comprises threads oriented transversely (30) and longitudinally (40) with respect to the direction of transport of the paper machine, and onto which fibres (90) are needled to form a felt structure, characterized in that at least some of the transverse threads (30) exhibit a twisted structure (10) that is substantially circular in cross-section and that comprises at least three monofilaments firmly twisted together.

Claim 2. (cancelled)

Claim 3. (original) Felt according to claim 1, characterized in that the textile backing element (20, 60, 100) is constructed in at least two-ply form.

Claim 4. (previously amended) Felt according to Claim 3, characterized in that two or more textile backing elements (60) are disposed one above another and, between upper and lower textile backing elements, fibres are embedded.

Claim 5. (previously amended) Felt according to Claim 3, characterized in that longitudinal (40) and/or transverse (30) threads of at least one upper layer (70) of the textile

backing element (60, 100) are connected to longitudinal (40) and/or transverse (30) threads of at least one lower layer (80) of the textile backing element.

Claim 6. (cancelled)

Claim 7. (original) Felt according to claim 1, characterized in that the twisted structure (10) is constructed as a mixed structure comprising monofils (110) and twisted and/or multiply twisted and/or spun and/or braided multifils.

Claim 8. (previously amended) Felt according to claim 1, characterized in that monofils (110) used to form the twisted structure have a diameter in the range from 0.1 mm to 0.9 mm.

Claim 9. (previously amended) Felt according to claim 1, characterized in that the twisted structure (10) has a mean outside diameter in the range from 0.3 mm to 1.0 mm.

Claim 10. (previously amended) Felt according to claim 1, characterized by a transverse-thread density above 130 transverse threads per 10 cm.

Claim 11. (new) Seamed felt for use in a paper machine, with a textile backing element (20, 60, 100) that comprises threads oriented transversely (30) and longitudinally (40) with respect to the direction of transport of the paper machine, and onto which fibres (90) are needled to form a felt structure, characterized in that at least some of the transverse threads (30) exhibit a twisted structure (10) that is substantially circular in cross-section and

that comprises at least three monofilaments twisted together, wherein each of the monofilaments itself has a helical construction.

Claim 12. (new) Felt according to claim 11, characterized in that the textile backing element (20, 60, 100) is constructed in at least two-ply form.

Claim 13. (new) Felt according to Claim 12, characterized in that two or more textile backing elements (60) are disposed one above another and, between upper and lower textile backing elements, fibres are embedded.

Claim 14. (new) Felt according to Claim 12, characterized in that longitudinal (40) and/or transverse (30) threads of at least one upper layer (70) of the textile backing element (60, 100) are connected to longitudinal (40) and/or transverse (30) threads of at least one lower layer (80) of the textile backing element.

Claim 15. (new) Felt according to claim 11, characterized in that the twisted structure (10) is constructed as a mixed structure comprising monofils (110) and twisted and/or multiply twisted and/or spun and/or braided multifils.

Claim 16. (new) Felt according to claim 11, characterized in that monofils (110) used to form the twisted structure have a diameter in the range from 0.1 mm to 0.9 mm.

Claim 17. (new) Felt according to claim 11, characterized in that the twisted structure (10) has a mean outside diameter in the range from 0.3 mm to 1.0 mm.

Claim 18. (new) Felt according to claim 11, characterized by a transverse-thread density above 130 transverse threads per 10 cm.

Claim 19. (new) Seamed felt for use in a paper machine, with a textile backing element (20, 60, 100) that comprises threads oriented transversely (30) and longitudinally (40) with respect to the direction of transport of the paper machine, and onto which fibres (90) are needled to form a felt structure, characterized in that at least some of the transverse threads (30) exhibit a twisted structure (10) that is substantially circular in cross-section and that comprises at least three monofilaments twisted together, wherein each of the monofilaments has a diameter of between about 0.2 and 0.3 mm.

Claim 20. (new) Felt according to claim 19, characterized in that the textile backing element (20, 60, 100) is constructed in at least two-ply form.

Claim 21. (new) Felt according to Claim 20, characterized in that two or more textile backing elements (60) are disposed one above another and, between upper and lower textile backing elements, fibres are embedded.

Claim 22. (new) Felt according to Claim 20, characterized in that longitudinal (40) and/or transverse (30) threads of at least one upper layer (70) of the textile backing element (60, 100) are connected to longitudinal (40) and/or transverse (30) threads of at least one lower layer (80) of the textile backing element.

Claim 23. (new) Felt according to claim 19, characterized in that the twisted structure (10) is constructed as a mixed structure comprising monofils (110) and twisted and/or multiply twisted and/or spun and/or braided multifils.

Claim 24. (new) Felt according to claim 19, characterized in that the twisted structure (10) has a mean outside diameter in the range from 0.3 mm to 1.0 mm.

Claim 25. (new) Felt according to claim 19, characterized by a transverse-thread density above 130 transverse threads per 10 cm.